General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 123

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/56/736/Add.1)*]

56/254. Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

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The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 56/242, 56/253, and 56/254 A to C of 24 December 2001,

Reaffirming also the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, inter alia, rule 47,

1. *Notes with concern* the implementation of the measures outlined in the note verbale from the Secretary-General dated 28 February 2002 and in the information circular concerning budget constraints and support service reductions[2] in relation to reductions in certain areas that directly affect services provided to Member States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the aforementioned resolutions in a way that does not adversely affect the services provided to Member States, in accordance with the current budgetary procedures, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation[3] and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Secretary-General to implement all General Assembly resolutions in a transparent and non-selective manner;

4. *Notes* the importance of appropriate provision of conference support services to the bodies and committees of the Organization and to regional groups in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/242, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to minimize the adverse effect of any changes in the existing and established practice with respect to the provision and availability of conference servicing resulting from the implementation of the measures outlined in his note verbale dated 28 February 2002 and outlined in the information circular;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to restore immediately Internet services, including web hosting, e-mail and support services, to permanent missions, utilizing the

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[1] For resolutions 56/254 A to C, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 49* (A/56/49), vol. I, sect. VI.

[2] ST/IC/2002/13.

[3] ST/SGB/2000/8.

resources released as a result of resolution 56/272 of 27 March 2002 on the comprehensive study of the question of honorariums payable to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, and to reflect the necessary transfers among sections of the budget in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, to be submitted at the fifty-seventh session;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit proposals to implement the provisions of resolution 56/242 within the resources specified in resolution 56/254 A for consideration and action during the second part of the fifty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to consider these matters further in the context of the first performance report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

97th plenary meeting
27 March 2002